

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated November 21, 2005. For the following reasons this application should be allowed and the case passed to issue. No new matter is introduced by this amendment.

Claims 5-7, 12, 15, 21-23, 25, 26, 28-30, 32, and 33 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-11, 14, 16-20, 24, 27, 31, and 34 have been rejected. Claims 2 and 13 were previously canceled. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-11, 14, 16-20, 24, 27, 31, and 34 have been canceled in this response.

Interview Summary

Applicants appreciate the courtesy of Examiner Sheehan in granting a telephone interview with the undersigned on October 19, 2005. During the interview, the undersigned and Examiner Sheehan discussed incorporation by reference of foreign priority documents and under what circumstances would the filing of an amendment having support in the priority document require an accompanying declaration and translation.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-7, 12, 15, 21-23, 25, 26, 28-30, 32, and 33 are allowed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowed claims.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-11, 14, 16-20, 24, 27, 31, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal thereof respectfully requested.

This rejection is moot, as claims 1, 3, 4, 8-11, 14, 16-20, 24, 27, 31, and 34 have been canceled. Only allowed claims 5-7, 12, 15, 21-23, 25, 26, 28-30, 32, and 33 remain pending in this application. Therefore, this application is in condition for allowance.

Application No.: 10/600,602

In light of the above Amendment and Remarks, this application should be allowed and the case passed to issue. If there are any questions regarding these remarks or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite prosecution of the application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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